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(54) Title: USE OF TRIGLYCERIDE OILS CONTAINING GAMMA-LINOLENIC ACID RESIDUES AND LINOLEIC ACID RESIDUES FOR THE TREATMENT OF NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASE

(57) Abstract: A method is provided for treating a patient in need of therapy for a neurodegenerative disease comprising administering to that patient a therapeutically effective dose of a triglyceride oil containing both γ -linolenic acid and linoleic acid residues as triglyceride ester, the ratio of γ -linolenic acid to linoleic acid residues at the sn-2 position of the triglyceride being at least 0.8; the amount of γ -linolenic acid residues at the sn-2 position being at least 18 %, wherein the oil is administered at a dose sufficient to maintain or elevate TGF- β 1 levels in the patient at a therapeutic level. Preferably the method is that wherein the therapeutic level is such as to produce a TGF- β /TNF- α ratio of at least 0.5 in blood of a patient, after 18 months of daily dosing. Preferred oils are Borage or Mucor oils having at least 35 % of the sn-2 position fatty acid residues as γ -linolenic acid.

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